

Buffalo

Rochester

Syracuse

LEAGUE MEMBERS

Utica

Schenectady

Albany

Binghamton

Elmira

BUFFALO BASKET BALL CLUB

MEMBER OF NEW YORK STATE BASKET BALL LEAGUE

RAY J. FISCHER, Manager

~~39 Keene Avenue~~

Buffalo, N. Y.

450 Moselle Street

HOME COURT - BROADWAY AUDITORIUM IN BUFFALO, N. Y. - Seating Capacity 10,000

Copy for Mr. White:

Buffalo, N.Y., June 13th, 1942.

Mr. William A. Leuschner,
World Building,
New York City.

Dear Mr. Leuschner:

*Mr. White: I can use the
Newark Eagles here on those
dates. Let me hear from you at once.*
R.J. Fischer

Although we were very close to getting together definitely upon some dates late last season, and while finally same did not fit in the picture of your clubs, I have decided to drop you a line again this year, after having noted that all night base ball will be banned for the duration of the war in New York and vicinity.

I am not going to try to coax you into sending some of your clubs into this territory, but will merely tell you that with our war industries going full blast, of which the following concerns have mammoth plants in this vicinity: Curtiss and Bell aircraft plants; Bethlehem, Republic and Wickwire-Spencer steel mills; American Car & Foundry Company's and Buffalo Arms Company's munition plants; General Motors' former Motor and Axle plant and their other assembly plant, now working on aeroplane motors; and hundreds of other minor war industries, working on defense sub-contracts, there are now over a million people in Buffalo and the Niagara Frontier, or about one third more population than in normal times.

I am doing surprisingly well in Niagara Falls at Hyde Park Stadium, where I put on one or two night games each week, and we are drawing better than ever in Buffalo. I am sending you herewith a half dozen sport pages from the Niagara Falls Gazette, in which you will notice that I am getting unlimited publicity in that paper every day, with about two, three or four different articles about my games at Hyde Park Stadium on the sport page of each day. The reason why you see all of this publicity in the Niagara Falls Gazette, the only newspaper daily published in Niagara Falls, is that I am working together on this base ball promotion with the sporting editor down there. This information, of course, is confidential, and I sincerely hope that you will treat it that way. You will notice in those sport pages that in advertising our games at Hyde Park Stadium in Niagara Falls, N.Y., when the Cincinnati Buckeyes played the Jacksonville Red Caps, and when the Chicago American Giants played the Cincinnati Buckeyes there this week, that, besides my paid display advertising in those sport pages, there were at least two or three other articles in those sport pages, besides the paid display advertising. Of course, in spite of the fact that I am also taking care of two assistant sport editors of the two Buffalo newspapers, and five radio commentators, we cannot hope to get anything in the Buffalo newspapers like we are getting at Niagara Falls.

LEAGUE MEMBERS

Buffalo

Rochester

Syracuse

Utica

Schenectady

Albany

Binghamton

Elmira

BUFFALO BASKET BALL CLUB

MEMBER OF NEW YORK STATE BASKET BALL LEAGUE

RAY J. FISCHER, Manager

39 Koons Avenue

Buffalo, N. Y.

HOME COURT - BROADWAY AUDITORIUM IN BUFFALO, N. Y.

Seating Capacity 10,000

WAL #2.6/13/42.

We are getting regular International League prices at Offermann Stadium in Buffalo, viz: Grandstand general admission of 85 cents; \$1.10 for grand stand reserved; and \$1.65 for boxes. As you know, the terms for the rental of Offermann Stadium to any one are a guarantee of \$250.00, with the option of 25 per cent of gross receipts, and we must use their own ticket sellers, takers and ushers, who must also be paid by us. That, of course, doesn't mean a thing, as it is in Buffalo where we make the real money, especially this year. In Niagara Falls, we charge one price of admission to all, viz: 50 cents, plus five cents tax. We had a gross gate of \$1131.60 on the night of June 5th, 1942, at Offermann Stadium for the game between Cincinnati Buckeyes and Jacksonville Red Caps, both clubs practically unknown here, while the New York Cubans and Baltimore Elites drew a somewhat larger gross gate four days later at Offermann Stadium, or on the night of Tuesday, June 9th, 1942. The Homestead Grays and New York Cubans were in here on the Thursday before Decoration Day, viz: May 28th, 1942, but they did not draw as well, because they cannot get the publicity here that I can. The reason for that is that they have a fellow named Winkler putting out their posters only, and he doesn't even cover Lackawanna, N.Y. with their posters, and they don't pay one cent to any newspaperman or radio sport commentator.

For the use of Hyde Park Stadium in Niagara Falls, N.Y., we have to guarantee only the sum of thirty dollars (\$30.00) for a night game, with the option of paying twenty per cent (20%) of gross receipts. We had a gross gate of \$449.50 for the Cincinnati Buckeyes vs. Jacksonville Red Caps' game in Niagara Falls on the night of Thursday, June 4th, 1942, and a gross gate of \$404.10 for the Chicago American Giants vs. Cincinnati Buckeyes' game on Thursday night of this week, June 11th, 1942. The only way that I can account for having a smaller gross gate this week than last is that the Cincinnati Buckeyes were beaten by a score of 6 to 0 a week ago here at Hyde Park Stadium in Niagara Falls by the Jacksonville Red Caps.

We have the Kansas City Monarchs and Birmingham Barons at Offermann Stadium in Buffalo on Thurs. night, June 25th, 1942, and I have the Cincinnati Buckeyes tentatively booked to meet the Memphis Red Sox at Hyde Park Stadium in Niagara Falls on Friday night, June 26th, 1942. I would like to switch to some Negro National League clubs for a few games, however; and for that reason am writing you today. I am in position to book any two Negro National League clubs for the following three dates: Monday, Tuesday and Wed. June 22nd, 23rd and 24th, 1942, the games to be played as follows: Mon. June 22nd - at Offermann Stadium in Buffalo; June 23rd (Tues.) - at Hyde Park Stadium in Niagara Falls, N.Y.; and Wed. June 24th - at the new Pony League Park in Lockport, N.Y. Will book the clubs on same basis as I have worked with the American Negro League clubs, viz: one third of gross to each club, after ground rental is first deducted. We pay all expenses from our one-third, in-

Buffalo

Rochester

Syracuse

LEAGUE MEMBERS

Utica

Schenectady

Albany

Binghamton

Elmira

BUFFALO BASKET BALL CLUB

MEMBER OF NEW YORK STATE BASKET BALL LEAGUE

RAY J. FISCHER, Manager

39 Koons Avenue

Buffalo, N. Y.

HOME COURT - BROADWAY AUDITORIUM IN BUFFALO, N. Y. - Seating Capacity 10,000

WAL #3.

6/13/42.

cluding printing and putting up of all the placards (we generally have 700 of them printed when games are booked in Buffalo and Niagara Falls on successive nights, and advertise the two games on one poster--this bill for printing these placards runs up to \$45.00 alone); we also pay for all radio and newspaper advertising, including paid display advertising in all Buffalo and Niagara Falls newspapers; and we also furnish the base balls and pay the umpires at Offermann Stadium in Buffalo. In other words, your clubs have no worry about anything, except to come and play the game here, taking one third of the gross gate each, after the Buffalo Base Ball Club deducts its share first.

I will take any two of your Negro National League clubs on two of those three nights, viz: Mon. and Tues. June 22nd and 23rd; or even for a one night stand at Offermann Stadium in Buffalo on Mon. June 22nd, 1942. That is the only night that I could book at Offermann Stadium in Buffalo that week, as we have an agreement with the Buffalo Base Ball Club not to have any games there between colored teams any closer than three days apart.

I understand that you control the New York Black Yankees and the Phila. Stars, -hence you should be in position to do some business with me on some of those dates. I can also book one of your Negro National League clubs to play white teams here on any of those dates, but would much prefer having two colored clubs play each other here on those dates. We have a very good club here at Fort Niagara, and I think that I could get their club to play one of your teams on those dates.

I am also in position to book two colored clubs into Hyde Park Stadium for either Thursday night or Friday night, June 18th or 19th, 1942. If you have any clubs in or near this territory that would care to jump in here on one of those two dates, or on both dates, if they desire, please wire me immediately.

Trusting that this letter gives you a very good idea of base ball in this territory, and hoping to hear from you at once if we are to have some action from you (by telegram or long distance phone if you want to send some clubs here for June 22nd, 23rd and 24th, 1942), so that we can get out the placards immediately, and have proper newspaper and radio advertising going immediately, I beg to remain,

Very truly yours,

Ray J. Fischer
450 Moselle Street, BUFFALO, N. Y.

PHONE: HUMBOLDT 3112.